This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (currently amended):   A system for providing a computer simulation system model comprising:

       computer-implemented design automation means for enabling a designer to create a runnable simulation system model including interconnected component and/or subsystem models;

       computer-implemented simulation content file creation means for creating a simulation content file that includes information describing the simulation system model; and

       computer-implemented simulation player comprising:

          means for reading the simulation content file;

          graphical user-interface means for displaying to an end-user a schematic diagram of the simulation system model created by the designer; and

          means for running the simulation system model using the information in the simulation content file,

       wherein the simulation content file includes a structured collection of data sufficient to enable the simulation player to display the schematic diagram, and to execute the steps to run the simulation system model,

       wherein the graphical user interface means and/or the means for running the simulation system model are adapted to prohibit ~~their use by~~ the end-user ~~from~~ for the purpose of modifying the simulation model by adding or removing any of the component models, subsystem models or interconnections of the simulation system model, and

       wherein results of running the simulation system model using the information in the simulation content file are presented to the end-user via the graphical user-interface means.

2.   (previously presented):   The system of claim 1 wherein said computer-implemented design automation means is adapted to enable the designer to identify parameters of the

simulation system model, component models and/or subsystem models that may be inspected and/or varied by the end user, and to specify one or more allowed values of said parameters,

wherein the simulation content file further includes information identifying said parameters and allowed values, and

wherein the graphical user interface means is adapted to enable the end user to vary only said identified parameters of the simulation system model, component models and/or subsystem models to only said allowed values.

3.   (previously presented):   The system of claim 1 wherein the simulation system model comprises an optical, opto-electronic or electronic simulation model.

4.   (previously presented):   The system of claim 1 wherein the information describing the simulation system model includes information specifying the component models and/or subsystem models comprising the simulation model, and the interconnections therebetween.

5.   (previously presented):   The system of claim 1 wherein the information describing the simulation system model includes simulation instructions specifying a sequence of operations to be carried out during running of the simulation model by the simulation player.

6.   (previously presented):   The system of claim 1 wherein the information describing the simulation system model includes information defining a graphical representation of the simulation model which is utilized by the graphical user interface means to display the schematic diagram of the simulation system model.

7.   (previously presented):   The system of claim 1 wherein the simulation content file creation means encrypts at least a part of the simulation content file to prevent unauthorized parties from accessing and/or altering the information describing the simulation system model.

8.   (original):   The system of claim 2 wherein the allowed values of said parameters comprise one or both of a range of values specified as a minimum value and a maximum value, and a list of discrete values.

9.   (previously presented):   The system of claim 1 wherein the simulation content file creation means comprises a software component for use with the computer-implemented design automation means.

10.   (previously presented): The system of claim 9 wherein the simulation content file further comprises content including one or more of data and/or document files, a digital image, a web site URL, and contact details, and wherein the designer is able to control the content file creation software component to include said content at the time of creation of the file.

11.   (previously presented):   The system of claim 10 wherein the simulation system model comprises a model of a component or system product, and the computer simulation model is provided for distribution by a vendor for evaluation of said product by prospective customers.

12.   (previously presented):   The system of claim 11 wherein the document and/or data files comprise data and promotional information relating to said product, and the simulation player comprises means for enabling the end user to open said files and inspect their contents.

13.   (previously presented):   The system of claim 11 wherein the digital image comprises a company logo of said vendor, and the graphical user interface means is adapted to display the logo on a computer display.

14.   (previously presented):   The system of claim 11 wherein the web site URL identifies a web site of said vendor, and the graphical user interface means is adapted to enable the end user to open a web browser at said web site.

15.   (previously presented): The system of claim 11 wherein the contact details include one or more of a physical address, an email address, a telephone number and a fax number, and the graphical user interface means is adapted to display said contact details on a computer display.

16.   (currently amended): A method of providing a computer simulation system model comprising the steps of:

one or more computer systems receiving a runnable simulation system model created by a designer using computer-implemented design automation means, said simulation system model including interconnected component and/or subsystem models;

the one or more computer systems creating a computer-readable simulation content file that includes information describing the simulation system model;

providing the simulation content file to an end-user computer system including a computer-implemented simulation player, wherein the simulation content file includes a structured collection of data sufficient to enable the simulation player to display the schematic diagram, and to execute the steps to run the simulation system model;

the ~~end-user computer system~~ computer-implemented simulation player providing a graphical user interface on the end-user computer system which displays a schematic diagram of the simulation system model;

the ~~end-user computer system~~ computer-implemented simulation player further providing means for enabling an end-user to run the simulation system model via the graphical user interface while prohibiting ~~the~~ its use by the end-user ~~from~~ for the purpose of modifying the simulation system model by adding or removing any of the component models, subsystem models or interconnections of the simulation system model;

the computer-implemented simulation player ~~end-user computer system~~ running the simulation model; and

the computer-implemented simulation player ~~end-user computer system~~ presenting simulation results via the graphical user interface of the end-user computer system.

17.   (currently amended): The method of claim 16, further comprising the steps of:

the ~~end-user computer system~~computer-implemented simulation player receiving input from the simulation content file identifying parameters of the simulation system model, component models and/or subsystem models that may be inspected and/or varied, and specifying one or more allowed values of said parameters; and

the computer-implemented simulation player~~end-user computer system~~ receiving input from an end-user varying said identified parameters of the simulation system model, component models and/or subsystem models to said allowed values.

18.   (previously presented): The method of claim 16 wherein the simulation system model comprises an optical, opto-electronic or electronic simulation model.

19.   (previously presented): The method of claim 16 wherein the step of providing the simulation content file to an end-user computer system comprises distributing the file using an information network.

20.   (original): The method of claim 19 wherein the information network is the internet.

21.   (previously presented): The method of claim 19 wherein said step of distributing includes making the simulation content file available for download from a web site.

22.   (currently amended): A tangible computer-readable medium having computer readable instructions stored thereon for performing a method of providing a computer simulation system model comprising the steps of:

providing a computer-implemented design automation environment for enabling a designer to create a runnable simulation system model including interconnected component and/or subsystem models; and

creating a simulation content file that includes information describing the simulation system model,

wherein the simulation content file is adapted for use with a computer-implemented simulation player which comprises:

        means for reading the simulation content file;

        graphical user interface means for displaying to an end-user a schematic diagram of the simulation system model created by the designer; and

        means for running the simulation system model using the information in the simulation content file.; and

        wherein the simulation content file includes a structured collection of data sufficient to enable the simulation player to display the schematic diagram, and to execute the steps to run the simulation system model,

wherein the graphical user interface means and the means for running the simulation system model are further adapted to prohibit their use by the end user from for the purpose of modifying the simulation system model by adding or removing any of the component models, subsystem models or interconnections of the simulation system models, and

wherein the computer-implemented simulation player is adapted to present results of running the simulation systems model using the information in the simulation content file, via the graphical user-interface means.

23.   (previously presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 22 wherein said computer-implemented design automation environment enables the designer to identify parameters of the simulation system model, component models and/or subsystem models that may be inspected and/or varied by an end user, and to specify one or more allowed values of said parameters that may be set by the end user, and

wherein said step of creating a simulation content file comprises including with said file information identifying said identified parameters and allowed values.

24.   (previously presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 22 wherein the simulation system model comprises an optical, opto-electronic or electronic simulation model.

25.   (previously presented):   The computer-readable medium of claim 22 wherein the information describing the simulation system model includes information specifying the component models and/or subsystem models comprising the simulation system model, and the interconnections therebetween.

26.   (previously presented):   The computer-readable medium of claim 22 wherein the information describing the simulation system model includes simulation instructions specifying a sequence of operations to be carried out during running of the simulation system model by the computer-implemented simulation player.

27.   (original): The computer-readable medium of claim 23 wherein the allowed values of said parameters comprise one or both of a range of values specified as a minimum value and a maximum value, and a list of discrete values.

28.   (previously presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 22 wherein said step of creating the simulation content file includes encrypting at least a part of the simulation content file to prevent unauthorized parties from accessing and/or altering the information describing the simulation model.

29.   (previously presented):   The computer-readable medium of claim 22 wherein said computer-implemented design automation environment comprises a computer-executable software component adapted to perform said step of creating a simulation content file.

30.   (previously presented):   The computer-readable medium of claim 29 wherein the simulation content file further comprises content including one or more of data and/or document files, a digital image, a web site URL, and contact details, the simulation content file including said content at the time of creation.

31.   (previously presented):   The computer-readable medium of claim 30 wherein the simulation system model comprises a model of a component or system product.

32.   (currently amended):   A tangible computer-readable medium having computer readable instructions stored thereon for performing a method comprising the steps of:

reading a simulation content file that includes information describing a runnable simulation system model created by a designer, which system model includes interconnected component and/or subsystem models; and

providing a computer-implemented simulation player environment which comprises:

means for reading the simulation content file;

graphical user-interface means for displaying to an end-user a schematic diagram of the simulation system model created by the designer; and

means for running the simulation system model using the information in the simulation content file,

wherein the simulation content file includes a structured collection of data sufficient to enable the simulation player to display the schematic diagram, and to execute the steps to run the simulation system model,

wherein the graphical user interface means and/or the means for running the simulation system model are adapted to prohibit their use by the end-user from for the purpose of modifying the simulation model by adding or removing any of the component models, subsystem models or interconnections of the simulation system model, and

wherein results of running the simulation system model using the information in the simulation content file are presented to the end-user via the graphical user-interface means.

33.   (previously presented):   The computer-readable medium of claim 32 wherein the simulation content file further includes information identifying parameters of the simulation system model, component models and/or subsystem models that may be inspected and/or varied by the end user, and one or more allowed values of said parameters, and

wherein said computer-implemented simulation player environment enables the end user to vary only said identified parameters to only said allowed values.

34.   (original):   The computer-readable medium of claim 32 wherein the simulation system model comprises an optical, opto-electronic or electronic simulation model.

35.   (previously presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 32 wherein the information describing the simulation system model includes information defining a graphical representation of the simulation system model, and wherein the graphical user interface of the computer-implemented simulation player environment utilizes said graphical representation to display the schematic diagram of the simulation model.

36.   (previously presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 32 wherein said computer-implemented simulation player environment comprises a computer-executable software component adapted to perform said step of reading the simulation content file.

37.   (previously presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 32 wherein the simulation content file further comprises content including one or more of data and/or document files, a digital image, a web site URL, and contact details.

38.   (previously presented): The computer program product of claim 37 wherein the simulation system model comprises a model of a component or system product.

39.   (previously presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 38 wherein the document and/or data files comprise data and promotional information relating to said product, and the simulation player software environment enables the end user to open said files and inspect their contents.

40.   (previously presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 38 wherein the digital image comprises a company logo of said vendor, and the graphical user interface of the computer-implemented simulation player environment is adapted to display the logo on a computer display.

41   (previously presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 38 wherein the web site URL identifies a web site of a vendor, and the graphical user interface of the

computer-implemented simulation player environment is adapted to enable the end user to open a web browser at said web site.

42.   (previously presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 38 wherein the contact details include one or more of a physical address, an email address, a telephone number and a fax number, and the graphical user interface of the computer-implemented simulation player environment is adapted to display said contact details on a computer display.

43.   (currently amended):   A system for providing a computer simulation system model comprising optical, opto-electronic or electronic components, said system comprising:

       computer-implemented design automation means for enabling a designer to create a runnable simulation system model of optical, opto-electronic or electronic components or systems, including interconnected component and/or subsystem models;

       computer-implemented simulation content file creation means adapted for use with said design automation means for creating a simulation content file that includes information describing the simulation system model; and

       computer-implemented simulation player comprising:

              means for reading the simulation content file;

              graphical user-interface means for displaying to an end-user a schematic diagram of the simulation system model created by the designer; and

              means for running the simulation system model using the information in the simulation content file,

       wherein the simulation content file includes a structured collection of data sufficient to enable the simulation player to display the schematic diagram, and to execute the steps to run the simulation system model,

       wherein the graphical user interface means and/or the means for running the simulation system model are adapted to prohibit their use by the end-user from for the purpose of modifying the simulation model by adding or removing any of the component models, subsystem models or interconnections of the simulation system model, and

wherein results of running the simulation system model using the information in the simulation content file are presented to the end-user via the graphical user-interface means.

44.   (previously presented): The system of claim 43 wherein said design automation means is adapted to enable the designer to identify parameters of the simulation system model, component models and/or subsystem models that may be inspected and/or varied by the end user, and to specify one or more allowed values of said parameters,

wherein the simulation content file further includes information identifying said parameters and allowed values, and

wherein the graphical user interface means is adapted to enable the end user to vary only said identified parameters of the simulation model, component models and/or subsystem models to only said allowed values.

45.   (original): The system of claim 43 wherein the simulation content file further includes one or more of data and/or document files, a digital image, a web site URL, and contact details.

46.   (previously presented): The system of claim 45 wherein:

the simulation system model comprises a model of an optical, opto-electronic or electronic component or system product, and the computer simulation model is provided for distribution by a vendor for evaluation of said product by prospective customers;

the document and/or data files comprise data and promotional information relating to said component or system product, and the simulation player is adapted to enable the end user to open said files and inspect their contents;

the digital image comprises a company logo of said vendor, and the graphical user interface means is adapted to display the logo on a computer display;

the web site URL identifies a web site of said vendor, and the graphical user interface means is adapted to enable the end user to open a web browser at said web site; and

the contact details include one or more of a physical address, an email address, a telephone number and a fax number, and the graphical user interface means is adapted to display said contact details on the computer display.

47.   (currently amended):   A method of providing a computer simulation system model comprising optical, opto-electronic or electronic components, said method comprising the steps of:

    one or more computer systems receiving a runnable simulation system model comprising optical, opto-electronic or electronic components or systems, created by a designer using computer-implemented design automation means, said simulation model including interconnected component and/or subsystem models;

    the one or more computer systems creating a computer-readable simulation content file that includes information describing the simulation system model;

    providing the simulation content file to an end user computer system including a computer-implemented simulation player, wherein the simulation content file includes a structured collection of data sufficient to enable the simulation player to display the schematic diagram, and to execute the steps to run the simulation system model;

    the ~~end-user computer system~~ computer-implemented simulation player providing a graphical user interface on the end-user computer system which displays a schematic diagram of the simulation system model;

    the ~~end-user computer system~~ computer-implemented simulation player enabling the end-user to run the simulation system model via the graphical user interface while prohibiting its use by the end-user ~~from~~ for the purpose of modifying the simulation system model by adding or removing any of the component models, subsystem models or interconnections of the simulation system model;

    the ~~end-user computer system running~~ computer-implemented simulation player the simulation model; and

    the computer-implemented simulation player ~~end-user computer system~~ presenting simulation results via the graphical user interface of the end-user computer system.

48.   (currently amended): The method of claim 47, further comprising the steps of:

    the computer-implemented simulation player ~~end-user computer system~~ receiving input identifying parameters of the simulation system model, component models and/or subsystem

models that may be inspected and/or varied, and specifying one or more allowed values of said parameters, wherein the simulation content file further includes information identifying said parameters and allowed values, and

the computer-implemented simulation player~~end-user computer system~~ receiving input from an end user varying said identified parameters of the simulation model, component models and/or subsystem models to said allowed values.

49.   (currently amended): A tangible computer-readable medium having computer-readable instructions stored thereon, for performing a method of providing a computer simulation system model comprising the steps of:

providing a computer-implemented design automation environment for enabling a designer to create a runnable simulation system model comprising optical, opto-electronic or electronic components, including interconnected component and/or subsystem models; and

creating a simulation content file that includes information describing the simulation system model,

wherein the simulation content file is adapted for use with a computer-implemented simulation player which comprises:

means for reading the simulation content file;

graphical user interface means for displaying to an end-user a schematic diagram of the simulation system model created by the designer;

means for running the simulation system model using the information in the simulation content file;

wherein the simulation content file includes a structured collection of data sufficient to enable the simulation player to display the schematic diagram, and to execute the steps to run the simulation system model,

wherein the graphical user interface means and the means for running the simulation system model are further adapted to prohibit their use by the end user ~~from~~ for the purpose modifying the simulation system model by adding or removing any of the component models, subsystem models or interconnections of the simulation system models, and

wherein the computer-implemented simulation player is adapted to present results of running the simulation system model using the information in the simulation content file, via the graphical user-interface means.

50.   (previously presented):   The computer-readable medium of claim 49 wherein said computer-implemented design automation environment enables the designer to identify parameters of the simulation system model, component models and/or subsystem models that may be inspected and/or varied by an end user, and to specify one or more allowed values of said parameters that may be set by the end user, and

wherein said steps of creating the simulation content file comprises including with said file information identifying said identified parameters and allowed values.

51.   (previously presented): The computer-readable medium product of claim 49 wherein the simulation content file further includes one or more of data and/or document files, a digital image, a web site URL, and contact details.

52.   (previously presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 51 wherein:

the simulation system model comprises a model of an optical, opto-electronic or electronic component or system product, and the computer simulation model is provided for distribution by a vendor for evaluation of said product by prospective customers;

the document and/or data files comprise data and promotional information relating to said component or system product, and the simulation player is adapted to enable the end user to open said files and inspect their contents;

the digital image comprises a company logo of said vendor, and the graphical user interface means is adapted to display the logo on a computer display;

the web site URL identifies a web site of said vendor, and the graphical user interface means is adapted to enable the end user to open a web browser at said web site; and

the contact details include one or more of a physical address, an email address, a telephone number and a fax number, and the graphical user interface means is adapted to display said contact details on the computer display.

53   (currently amended): A tangible computer-readable medium having computer-readable instructions stored thereon, for performing a method comprising the steps of:

reading a simulation content file that includes information describing a runnable optical, opto-electronic or electronic simulation system model created by a designer, which model includes interconnected component and/or subsystem models, and

providing a computer-implemented simulation player environment which includes:

means for reading the simulation content file;

graphical user-interface means for displaying to an end-user a schematic diagram of the simulation system model created by the designer; and

means for running the simulation system model using the information in the simulation content file,

wherein the simulation content file includes a structured collection of data sufficient to enable the simulation player to display the schematic diagram, and to execute the steps to run the simulation system model,

wherein the graphical user interface means and/or the means for running the simulation system model are adapted to prohibit their use by the end-user from for the purpose of modifying the simulation model by adding or removing any of the component models, subsystem models or interconnections of the simulation system model, and

wherein results of running the simulation system model using the information in the simulation content file are presented to the end-user via the graphical user-interface means.